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PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Western Baptist Missionary Berean Association,

—HELD WITH—

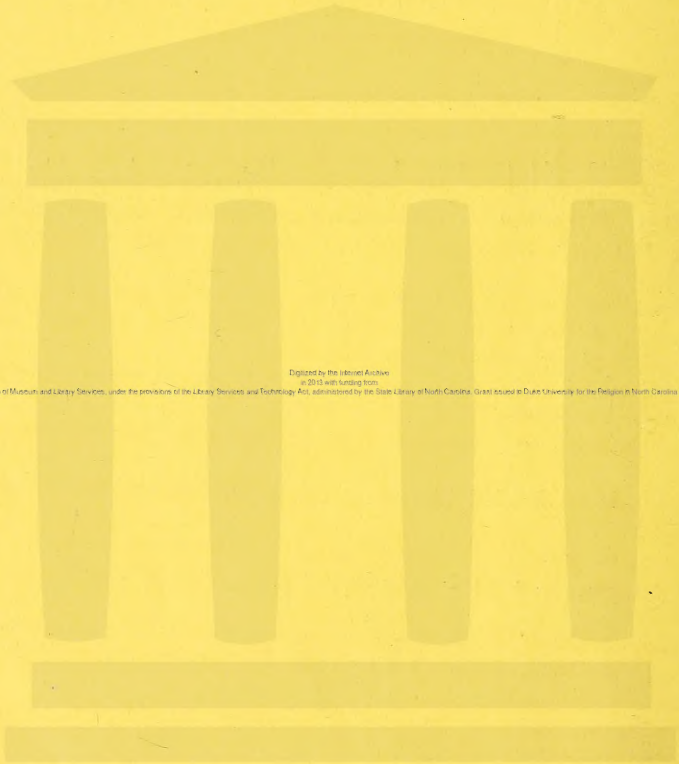
SALEM CHURCH,

MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C.,

August 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th,

1879.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.:
JAMES A. VOGLER, JOB PRINTER,
1879.



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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL

Western Baptist Missionary Berean Association.

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FIRST DAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, August 13th, 1879.

The Berean Baptist Association met with the brethren of Salem Church, Mecklenburg county, N. C., at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and were all made welcome by the Pastor of the Church, Rev. T. Barnwell. Bro. Barnwell then arose and said, "I thank God for sparing our lives to meet in another Association."

The Introductory Sermon was then preached by Rev. A. Jones from 1 John, chap. 4, verse 11: "Beloved, if God so loved us we ought also to love one another."

Bro. A. Lewis, Alternate, sang 148th hymn, "Behold the Sure Foundation Stone."

Rev. B. Ransom was conducted to the chair by Rev. T. Barnwell.

The Moderator, Rev. B. Ransom, then pronounced the Association open for business.

On motion of Rev. A. Jones a committee of three was appointed on Devotional Exercises as follows: Bros. Ervin, Rankin and J. Means.

On motion of Rev. T. Barnwell, a committee of three was appointed on Finance, as follows: Bros. E. Ervin, B. J. Hand and J. Means.

On motion of Rev. T. Barnwell, a collection was taken up to buy paper, amounting to 37 cents.

On motion of Rev. T. Barnwell, a committee of three was appointed to enroll all the delegates' names, as follows: Bros. G. Friday, A. Jones and L. McMackin.

We, your committee on Devotional Exercises, beg leave to report that M Beam is to preach to-night, Rev. T. Barnwell, Alternate.

On motion of A. R. Rankin, a committee of three was appointed a Committee on Arrangements, as follows: A. Lewis, J. Jackson and A. R. Rankin.

The Committee of Arrangements reported "that the Association meet at 9 o'clock, A. M., adjourn at 12, meet at 2 and adjourn at 5. Night services to commence at 8 o'clock.

On motion of G. Friday, the Association adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY MORNING, August 14th, 1879.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, the Moderator in the chair. Sung hymn 336, "Let My Prayers Arise." The Moderator, Rev. B. Ransom, then read 133d Psalm: "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

On motion of Bro. L. McMackin, Rev. Z. Horton was invited to sit in council with us.

On motion of Bro. E. Ervin, the minutes of yesterday were read and received.

On motion of Bro. B. J. Hand, the roll of delegates was called, and all answered to their names.

On motion of Bro. B. J. Hand, Revs. M. J. S. Dawson and W. M. Bell took seats with us in council.

On motion of Bro. P. Suratt, the names of all the ministers were enrolled.

On motion of Rev. A. Jones, the Finance Committee were instructed to receive the letters from the different churches.

On motion of Bro. L. McMackin, Rev. J. Steel was invited to take a seat with us.

On motion of Rev. H. Washington, a part of the 12th Article was taken out of the constitution.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report that we have received all of the church letters that are present, $8.31.

E. ERVIN,
B. J. HAND,
J. MEANS,
} Committee.

It was moved by Bro. B. J. Hand that we wait on Salem Church for her money.

Bro. A. Jones moved that the door of the Association be opened for the reception of new churches. The Association then received the Mt. Moriah Church, and waited on Delegate J. May for his money to pay on the minutes.

On motion of Bro. E. Ervin, the Association adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Thursday Afternoon.

The Association met according to adjournment, the Moderator in the chair. Sung hymn 165 "Vain are the Hopes of the Sons of Men;" then read the 134th Psalm. Prayer by Bro. C. Rozzel.

It was moved by brother W. Wilson that the minutes of yesterday afternoon be received with proper corrections.

We, your Committee on Arrangements, beg leave to report that Rev. Z. Horton is to preach to-night. Rev. W. M. Dawson, Alternate.

On motion of A. R. Rankin the Association adjourned with prayer by J. Jackson to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Thursday Night Services.

Rev. Z. Horton preached. Rev. W. M. Dawson, Alternate. Sung the 9th hymn, "Awake and sing the song of Moses and the Lamb," and read the 21st chapter of Luke. Prayer by the same; then sung the 6th hymn, "Come Thy Fount of Every Blessing." Rev. Z. Horton then preached to a well ordered congregation from the 38th chapter of Job and 4th verse, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundation of the earth?" Closing hymn, page 70, "Jesus my All to Heaven is Gone."

THIRD DAY.

Friday Morning, August 15th, 1879.

Association met at 9 o'clock, the Moderator in the Chair. Sung the 74th hymn, then read the 23rd Psalm. Prayer by B. J. Hand. The Moderator then declared the house ready for business.

Bro. E. Ervin moved that the minutes of yesterday afternoon be read, and on motion of J. Sloan were received.

On motion of A. R. Rankin, the roll was called and all answered to their names.

Bro. E. Ervin moved to lay over the unfinished business until evening.

Bro. B. J. Hand moved to have the Corresponding Letters read from the Mountain and Catawba Associations, Rev. M. J. S. Dawson Correspondent.

On motion of Rev. T. Barnwell, the letter was received.

Bro. E. Ervin moved to appoint a committee of 7 to enroll all the Minister's names from the different churches. Committee: G. Friday, J. Means, P. Suratte, T. Barnwell, B. J. Hand, J. Jackson, A. R. Rankin.

We, your committee on enrollment of Delegates, beg leave to report as follows:

First Baptist Church, Charlotte—E Ervin, A Lewis, G Friday.
Salem, Paw Creek, Mecklenburg county—T Barnwell, J Means.
Springfield Church, Stanly Creek, Gaston county—B J Hand, L McMackin.
Bethel, Woodlawn, Gaston county—J Jackson, G Broom, A Jones.
Mount Olive, Mecklenburg county—E Osborne, J Sloan, T Moore.
Fancy Hill, High Shoals, Gaston county—B Wilson, A R Rankin.
Clear Creek, Clear Creek, N. C.—A C Orr.
Mount Moriah, Matthew Station—John May.
Mt. Sinai, Woodlaun, Gaston county—C Rozzel, P Surratte.

Bro. E. Ervin moved that a committee of three be appointed on Temperance. Committee: E. Ervin, L. McMackin, C. Rozzell.

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report that it is with feelings of thankfulness to God that we feel justified in reporting in behalf of the Association our brethren are opposed to and using their influence against the making, vending or drinking intoxicating liquors as a beverage We believe it to be the duty of all to oppose this great evil which is constantly bringing misery upon thousands of the most promising as well as the abject and poverty stricken. God says, "woe unto him that giveth his neighbors drink, that putteth the bottle to him and makest him drunken." Also, "and whatsoever is not of faith is sin." Romans 14th chapter and 23d verse.

On motion of brother B. W. Wilson, a committee of three was appointed on Sabbath School. Committee: brothers A. Lewis, B. W. Wilson, Z. Horton.

On motion of J. Sloan, a committee of three was appointed to select a Corresponding Messenger to meet with the Mountain and Catawba Associations. Committee: brothers J. Sloan, W. M. Dawson, M. J. S. Dawson.

We, your committee on Enrollment of Members, beg leave to report that all the Ministers names are enrolled.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report that there has been some work performed in this department in our Association, but it has not been to the extent which its importance demands. While there are nine churches in this Association, there are only 554 members. Since there seems such slowness on the part of our male members to engage in the work we earnestly urge the sisters to lay hold of the work and assist in promoting the welfare of the children and the advancement of the Master's Kingdom. No place offers as good opportunities for the study of the Bible as the Sabbath School. Here we urge upon parents not only to send their children, but to go themselves and form Bible classes, that they may be acquainted with God's Word, which they profess to be guided by; and we recommend all of our churches to send up a full report of all their Sabbath Schools hereafter.

L. McMackin moved to receive the report.

We, your Committee on Corresponding Messenger, beg leave to report that Rev. A. Jones is the Corresponding Messenger to the Mountain and Catawba Association, 3 miles West of Wilkesboro, Damascus Church, on Wednesday before the 4th Lord's day in October, 1879.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Moderator in the chair. Sung hymn 334. Read the 15th chapter of Revelation. Prayer by brother C. Rozzell.

The Moderator, Rev. B. Ransom, then declared the house open for business.

On motion of brother A. Lewis, the minutes of the forenoon were read and approved.

We, your committee on time and place, beg leave to report that the next Association will convene in Charlotte, Mecklenburg county, N. C., at the First Baptist Church, on Wednesday before the third Lord's day in August, 1880

G. Friday moved to take up the unfinished business.

E. Ervin moved to have the letters read.

J. Sloan moved to receive the Fancy Hill Church Letter.

A. R. Rankin moved to receive Springfield Church Letter.

Rev. T. Barnwell moved that a committee of five be appointed to superintend the printing of the Minutes. M. Bean is to see to the printing. He is to have $6 for writing them out.

Rev. T. Barnwell moved that a committee of five be appointed on officers for the next year, 1880. Committee: G. Friday, J. Means, J. Jackson, B. J. Hand, S. Rozzell.

We, your Committee on Officers, beg leave to report for
President--Rev. T. Barnwell.
Vice-President—Bro. A. Lewis.
Recording Secretary—Rev. M. Beam.
Corresponding Seeretary.—G. Broom.
Treasurer.—B. J. Hand.

Rev. E. Eagles is to preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. H. Washington, Alternate.

B. J. Hand moved that if there is not money enough to pay for printing the minutes that a collection be taken up in each church to pay expenses on the minutes and the Clerk.

We, your Committee on Religious Exercises, beg leave to report that Rev. W. M. Bell is to preach to-night, Rev. M. J. S. Davidson, Alternate.

G. Friday moved that we receive Bethel Church Letter.

M. J. S. Davidson moved to adjourn to meet at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning. Prayer by Rev. A. Johnson.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

Rev. W. M. Bell preached to a civil congregation from the 37th chapter of Ezekiel and 6th verse: "Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones, Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live."

Rev. M. J. S. Davidson, Alternate, sung hymn 254: "I long to see the season come when sinners shall come flocking home to taste the heavens of Jesus' love and seek the joys which are above."

A collection was called, amounting to 84 cents.

FOURTH DAY.

SATURDAY MORNING, August 16th, 1879.

Association met according to adjournment, the Moderator in the Chair. Sung hymn 280; then read the 4th chapter of Michael. Prayer by Bro. P. Surratt.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Bro. E. Ervin moved that a committee of five be appointed on ministers character. Committee: A. Jones, M. J. S. Davidson, A. Johnson, W. H. Washington, W. M. Bell.

Rev. T. Barnwell moved that a committee of three be appointed on a Correspondent to meet the Rowan Baptist Association.

We, your Committee on the Election of a Correspondent to the Rowan Association, beg leave to report that Rev. W. H. Washington is to meet the Rowan Baptist Association.

T. BARNWELL,
B. J. HAND,
C. ROZZEL,
Committee.

We, your Committee on Minister's characters, beg leave to report that the Ministers of Christ ought to be the meekest men in the world, clear of boasting on himself. Such men shall not and will not be recognized in this Association as a minister. We understand that the Apostle Paul said: "Not a novice less being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemation of the Devil." 1 Timothy, 3d chapter, 6th verse. We don't want no such man as this, and we hope that you, our dear brethren, will look carefully into this. for it is important that we know of such characters.

H. WASHINGTON,
A. JONES,
M. J. S. DAVIDSON,
A. JOHNSON,
W. M. BELL,
Committee.

We, your committee on Religious Exercises, beg leave to report that Rev A. Jones is to preach to-day at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGE TO THE CLERK.

Due Miles Beam $6.00. Salem Church due 40 cents; Fancy Hill Church 40; Springfield Church $1.00; Mount Sinai Church 40; Mt. Olive Church 75; Bethel Church 50; Mount Moriah Church 40; First Baptist Church, Charlotte, $1.00; Clear Creek Church 40. Total $5.25.

Rev. B. Ransom, Alternate, sung hymn 2. Rev. M. J. S. Davidson read the 1st Psalm. Rev. B. Ransom led in prayer and sung hymn 63. Rev. M. J. S. Davidson preached to a civil congregation from the 2d Psalm and 1st verse.

Bro. B. J. Hand moved that a vote of thanks be returned to our Salem Church brethren, sisters and friends for their kindness during the session of the Association.

On motion of B. J. Hand the Association adjourned *sine die*.

REV. B. RANSOM, Moderator.

REV. M. BEAN, Clerk.

CHURCHES, POST OFFICES, PASTORS, STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	POST OFFICES.	PASTORS.	Members Restored.	Baptism.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Deaths.	Excluded.	Membership.	Contributions.	S. S. Scholars.	Church Purposes.
First Baptist,	Charlotte, N. C.	E. Eagles,	11	47	2	1	1	8	262	2 00		
Salem,	Paw Creek, Meck'g Co.	M. J. S. Davidson	4	8		7	2		47	1 00	52	
Mt. Sinai,	Woodlawn, Gaston co.	T. Barnwell.		2					49	1 00	48	59
Springfield,	Stanly Creek, N. C.	M J S Davidson.	1	11			3	10	145	2 00	55	
Clear Creek,	Clear Creek, N. C.	T. Barnwell.		1			1		13	1 00		
Fancy Hill,	High Shoals, Lincoln Co.	M J S Davidson.		11	2	2		1	41	1 00		
Mt. Olive,	Hopewell, N. C.	A. Jones.		8					43	1 00	15	
Bethel,	Woodlawn, Gaston Co.	A. Jones.		2	1				37	1 00	30	
Mt. Moriah,	Matthew Station, N. C.	H. Washington.							13	1 00		
			16	80	5	10	7	16	450	$11		59

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF ORDER.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be known by the name of the WESTERN BAPTIST MISSIONARY BEREAN ASSOCIATION.

ART. II. This Association shall be composed of Regular Missionary Baptist Churches in good standing, and full practice of the doctrines, practice and faith, discipline, ordinances and officiary of the Regular Baptist denomination.

ART. III. The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Clerk, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, whose duties shall be as are in common, and who shall be elected annually, and hold their offices until their successors are chosen.

ART. IV. The sole object of this Association shall be for fraternal intercourse and mutual counsel, to promote the union of the churches, and to look especially to the cause of Christ, within the bounds of the Association.

ART. V. This Association shall meet annually, composed of not more than three delegates from each church, with a letter giving the condition of the church. Said meeting shall convene on Wednesday at 10 o'clock A. M., before the third Sabbath in August, with an introductory sermon, and continue until the business of the Association is completed.

ART. VI. All visiting regular ordained ministers of our faith and order, who are in good standing in their respective churches, and corresponding delegates, can have a seat with us to give counsel, but not to vote. Voting shall be only by the delegates.

ART. VII. Any church, a member of this body, that is corrupt in practice or doctrine after gospel steps have been legally taken to reclaim her, and

she persists in her course, shall no longer be a member of this body; and the reason in full shall be published in the Minutes. Furthermore, any church failing to be represented by letter or delegates two successive years, shall be visited by suitable admonition, and if she neglects to attend the third year shall be dropped from the Association.

ART. VIII. No difficulty existing between churches or in a church shall be heard by this Association until gospel steps have been fully taken outside of this body to settle the difficulty.

ART. IX. The Scriptures, the Word of God, shall be a sufficient rule of faith, doctrine and practice, &c., of this Association, and the traditions of man, where they have neither precept nor example in the Scriptures to justify them, shall be rejected.

ART. X. The following committee shall be appointed after the election of officers: 1st, Committee on Devotional Exercises, except the Sabbath; 2d, Committee on Finance; 3d, Committee on Admission of Churches and Correspondence; 4th, Committee on Publication of the Minutes; 5th, Committee on time and place of the next Annual Session; 6th, Committee on Miscellaneous Business.

ART. XI. The Rules of Order in the Baptist Church Directory shall govern the deliberations of this body.

ART. XII. This Constitution may be amended by a two thirds vote at any annual session of the Association.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. This Association shall be opened with singing and prayer by the Moderator or others appointed by him.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting shall then be read, corrected and adopted.
3. No brother shall be interrupted when speaking, unless his remarks are foreign to the question under discussion; any brother may then rise to a point of order, or the Moderator may call him to the proposition under debate.
4. When a member is called to order by the Moderator, he shall take his seat until it is determined by the Moderator whether he is in order or not. Said member may appeal from the decision of the Moderator. The decision of the Association shall be final.
5. No man shall speak more than twice on any subject, or any longer than five minutes, unless he obtains the permission of the Association.
6. No member shall be allowed to go to sleep, spit on the floor or talk in the session room.
7. No member shall be allowed to leave the house without permission of the Moderator.